



Primary Care Reimbursement Service
Exit 5, M50, North Road, Finglas, Dublin 11, D11 XKF3
Tel: 01- 8647100

Gino Kenny, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

8th October, 2019

PQ: 38368/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of prescriptions issued to medical card holders for opioids in each of the years 2009 to 2018 and to date in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Gino Kenny

Dear Deputy Kenny,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 38368/19), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

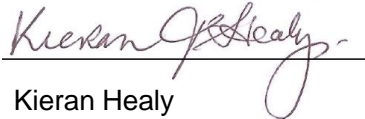
The following table outlines the number of prescriptions issued to persons with medical card eligibility.

ATC	ATC Description	No. of Prescriptions
N02AA01	Morphine	19,549
N02AA03	Hydromorphone	973
N02AA05	Oxycodone	41,698
N02AA51	Morphine, combinations	746
N02AA55	Oxycodone, Combinations	16,246
N02AB02	Pethidine	60
N02AB03	Fentanyl	21,789
N02AE01	Buprenorphine	56,834
N02AJ01	Paracetamol, combinations excl. psycholeptics	16
N02AJ06	Codeine, Combs. excl. Psycholeptics	354,583
N02AJ07	Morphine, combinations	1
N02AJ13	Tramadol and Paracetamol	71,589
N02AJ14	Tramadol and Dexketoprofen	1,127
N02AX02	Tramadol	102,022
N02AX05	Meptazinol	1,564
N02AX06	Tapentadol	32,061
Total		720,858

Note:

- The information provided is based on claim data which has been received by the Primary Care Reimbursement Service (PCRS) from Community Pharmacists and includes items reimbursed by PCRS only
- Data provided does not extend to medicines and drugs used in opioid substitute treatment

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kieran Healy', written over a horizontal line.

Kieran Healy
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service